In the Abstract:

A head slider includes a front rail formed on the disk opposing surface adjacent to the air inlet end, the front rail having a flat air bearing surface for generating a flying force during rotation of the disk; and a pair of rear rails formed on the disk opposing surface adjacent to the air outlet end, each of the rear rails having a flat air bearing surface for generating a flying force during rotation of the disk. The head slider further includes a transducer formed near the air outlet and where on of the rear rails is formed; and a plurality of pads formed on the front rail and at least one of the rear rails. Each pad has an inclined upper end surface with a given inclination angle such that the upstream end of the inclined upper end surface is higher in level than the downstream end thereof.